

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) An occupant protection system for deploying a deployable air bag from a concealed location in a vehicle instrument panel having an opening, the protection system comprising:

an air bag normally containable in a deflated condition immediately adjacent the opening and deployable through the opening as a protection for the occupant; and

the air bag having a skin and a portion of that skin completely closes the opening when the air bag is deflated, and remaining as a portion of the air bag after the air bag is deployed.

2.-3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) In combination, a vehicle having an air bag deployable upon vehicle impact and an occupant protection system for deploying a deployable air bag from a concealed location in a vehicle instrument panel having an opening, the protection system comprising:

an air bag normally containable in a deflated condition immediately adjacent the opening and deployable upon vehicle impact through the opening as a protection for the occupant; and

the air bag having a skin and a portion of that skin completely closes the opening when the air bag is deflated and remaining as a portion of the air bag after the air bag is deployed.

5. (previously presented) The occupant protection system of claim 1 wherein the skin that closes the opening is flush with the vehicle instrument panel.

6. (previously presented) The combination of claim 4 wherein the skin that closes the opening is flush with the vehicle instrument panel.